

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 are rejected.

The Examiner's acknowledgement of receipt of the claim for priority and certified copies of the priority documents is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as lacking structural connections between the lamp, the LED and the optical component, citing MPEP 2172.01.

Claim 1 is currently amended to call for a white lamp system in which the gas-discharge lamp and the LED are arranged in a housing so as to achieve additive mixing of the light by the optical component. Support for this limitation may be found, for example, at page 3, lines 21-24 of the specification.

Thus, the relationship between the lamp, the LED and the optical component has been established, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Treuhand (DE 20007134 U1) in view of Trushell et al. (U.S. 5,612,590) (herein 'Trushell') and Toyoda (JP 07235624 A).

Treuhand is discussed in the background section of Applicant's specification. This discussion makes clear that while Treuhand provides a lamp system having means for the additive mixing of light from a discharge lamp and LEDs, the object of Applicant's invention is to improve on such a lamp system by the achievement of good color rendition and high efficiency. See, for example, page 1, lines 19-22 and 27-29.

Trushell discloses a gas discharge lamp with a phosphor blend designed to achieve a high color rendering index. Color rendering index (CRI) measures the ability of a light source to render various colors naturally. Thus, a white light source would have a high CRI, while a colored light source would have a low CRI. See, e.g., the Wikipedia definition at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Color_rendering_index.

The Examiner has asserted that Trushell discloses a gas discharge lamp with a green-blue color point, citing col. 1, lines 30-57. This portion of the reference describes a known fluorescent lamp disclosed in EP 0 596 548. This lamp has a blend of up to five different phosphors, and produces a white light with a high CRI, not a green-blue light. See page 2, lines 40 and 41 of the reference.

Toyoda discloses a multicolor LED lamp having red, green and blue LEDs. Such a lamp would produce white light resulting from the mixing of the red, green and blue colors, not a yellow-red light.

Thus, the references fail to teach or suggest a white lamp system with a gas-discharge lamp having a green-blue color point and an LED with a green-blue color point, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treuhand in view of Trushell and Toyoda as applied above, and further in view of Ohishi et al. (U.S. 2001/0005319 A1) (herein 'Ohishi').

Without conceding the patentability per se of claims 5 and 6, these claims are nevertheless patentable by virtue of their dependency. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treuhand in view of Trushell, Toyoda and Ohishi as applied above, and further in view of Callahan (U.S. 4,894,760).

Without conceding the patentability per se of claim 7, this claim is nevertheless patentable by virtue of its dependency. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, and allow all the pending claims, and find the application to be otherwise in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


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